



CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Recognition of Lodi Police Department SWAT Team for Taking First Place at the Sierra Foothill Tactical Challenge

MEETING DATE: August 20, 2008

PREPARED BY: David J. Main, Chief of Police

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Chief David Main will introduce the Lodi Police Department SWAT Team to the Council, in recognition of their first place win at the Sierra Foothill Tactical Challenge.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On July 17 - 19, 2008, the Lodi Police Department SWAT Team competed in the Sierra Foothill Tactical Challenge and finished first among 12 teams. Of the teams participating, three were exclusively full-time SWAT units. Lodi's SWAT team is a collateral duty for full-time officers.

The event is highly competitive and physically challenging, consisting of three days of realistic training scenarios involving: hostage/rescue, high risk search warrant entry, narcotics buy bust and dignitary protection. Physical challenges involved traversing an exceptionally demanding ravine area; a timed land navigation course; and a 1.5 mile race through formidable forest terrain. Members participated in five different timed shooting ranges, where Sergeant Martinez placed 2nd out of 83 participants.

Exceptional teamwork, discipline, training and preparation went into winning this event. This is the third time the Lodi Police Department SWAT Team won the competition; previously placing first in 2001 and 2004.

Those competing in this year's challenge were Sergeant Fernando Martinez (team leader), Sergeant Mike Oden, Sean Blanford, Sierra Brucia, David Griffin, Kevin Kent and Mike Manetti.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

FUNDING AVAILABLE: Not Applicable

David J. Main
Chief of Police

DJM:sm
Cc: City Attorney

APPROVED:

Blair King, City Manager